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IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) ~~Communication~~ A communication system for automation equipment (10) ~~acting on~~ for communicating over a TCP/IP network (50) in which the wherein such automation equipment (10) ~~controls~~ is for controlling an automation application by executing an application program (20) ~~written in~~ one or several languages according to standard IEC 1131-3, ~~characterised by the fact that the communication system~~ comprises the communication system comprising:

[[~~-~~]]exchange means for implementing a WEB server function or a WEB client function inside an application program (20), ~~these program, said~~ exchange means comprising at least one WEB function block (21, 22) ~~that can interact~~ for interacting with ~~the such application program (20),~~ program, said WEB function block comprising a generic program code and configuration data that are specific to each WEB function block, said configuration data comprising a general format of frames exchanged by the WEB function block, a type of HTTP request that the WEB function

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block can receive or send and the relative URL address of the WEB function block in the automation equipment, and

[[~~-~~]]an HTTP interface ~~(15)~~ in the ~~such~~ automation equipment ~~(10)~~ ~~capable of~~ for routing messages from the TCP/IP network ~~(50)~~ to a WEB function block identified by a URL address, and for routing messages from a WEB function block in the automation equipment ~~(10)~~ to a URL address on the TCP/IP network ~~(50)~~. network.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~Communication~~ A communication system according to claim 1, ~~characterised by the fact that it comprises~~ comprising at least one reception WEB function block ~~(21) to implement~~ for implementing a WEB server function in an application program ~~(20)~~. program.

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3. (Currently Amended) ~~Communication~~ A communication system according to claim 1, ~~characterised by the fact that it comprises 2, comprising at least one send WEB function block (22) to implement for implementing a WEB client function in an application program (20).~~ program.

4.-5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) ~~Communication~~ A communication system according to claim 4, ~~characterised by the fact that a designer of an application program (20) is capable of configuring 1, wherein the configuration data (219, 229) of WEB function blocks (21, 22) is integrated in an application program (20),~~ program, in text form.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~Communication~~ A communication system according to claim 4, ~~characterised by the fact that 2, wherein the configuration data (219) of a said reception WEB function block (21) contain~~ comprise means of for making a correspondence between the elements of an HTTP request (51) and

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output parameters (OUT\_1,OUT\_n) for the reception WEB function block ~~(21)~~, ~~block,~~ and means for creating a correspondence between ~~the~~ input parameters (IN\_1,IN\_n) for the reception WEB function block ~~(21)~~ and the elements of an HTTP answer ~~(52)~~.answer.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~Communication~~—A communication system according to claim 4, ~~characterised by the fact that~~ 3, wherein the configuration data ~~(229)~~ of a said send WEB function block ~~(22)~~ contain means ~~ef~~ for creating a correspondence between input parameters (IN\_1, IN\_n) for the send WEB function block ~~(22)~~ and the elements of an HTTP request ~~(51)~~, request, and means for creating a correspondence between elements of an HTTP answer ~~(52)~~ and ~~the~~ output parameters (OUT\_1,OUT\_n) for the send WEB function block ~~(22)~~.block.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~Communication~~—A communication system according to claim 4, ~~characterised by the fact that~~ 3, wherein the contents of an HTTP request ~~(51)~~ or an HTTP answer ~~(52)~~ is an XML frame.

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10. (Currently Amended) ~~Communication~~ A communication system according to claim 9, ~~characterized by the fact that the~~ wherein configuration data ~~(219)~~ of a said reception WEB function block ~~(21)~~ contain means ~~of~~ for making a correspondence between the elements of an XML frame contained in an HTTP request ~~(51)~~ and output parameters (OUT\_1, OUT\_n) for the reception WEB function block ~~(21)~~, block, and means for creating a correspondence between the input parameters (IN\_1, IN\_n) for the reception WEB function block ~~(21)~~ and the elements of an XML frame contained in an HTTP answer ~~(52)~~. answer.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~Communication~~ A communication system according to claim 9, ~~characterised by the fact that the~~ wherein configuration data ~~(229)~~ of a said send WEB function block ~~(22)~~ contain means ~~of~~ for making a correspondence between input parameters (IN\_1, IN\_n) for the send WEB function block ~~(22)~~ and elements of an XML frame contained in an HTTP request ~~(51)~~, request, and means for creating a correspondence between the elements of an XML frame contained in an HTTP answer (52)

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and the output parameters (OUT\_1, OUT\_n) for the send WEB function block ~~(22)~~.block.

12. (Currently Amended) ~~Communication~~—A communication system according to claim 4, ~~characterised by the fact that~~ wherein the content of an HTTP request ~~(51)~~ is a URL encoded frame.

13. (Currently Amended) ~~Communication~~—A communication system according to claim 12, ~~characterised by the fact that the~~ wherein configuration data ~~(219)~~ of a reception WEB function block ~~(21)~~ contain means ~~of~~ for creating a correspondence between the elements of an encoded URL frame contained in an HTTP request ~~(51)~~ and output parameters (OUT\_1,OUT\_n) for the reception WEB function block ~~(21)~~.block.

14. (Currently Amended) ~~Communication~~—A communication system according to claim 12, ~~characterised by the fact that the~~ wherein configuration data ~~(229)~~ of a said send WEB function block ~~(22)~~ contain means of creating a correspondence between

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input parameters (IN-1,IN\_n) for the send WEB function block (22) and the elements of a URL encoded frame contained in an HTTP request (51). request.

15. (Currently Amended) ~~Automation equipment characterised by the fact that it contains~~ A communication system according to claim 1 in combination with automation equipment, wherein said automation equipment comprises an application program that integrates for integrating a communication system on a TCP/IP network ~~according to one of the previous claims.~~ network.

16. (Withdrawn) Programming station used to design an application program (20) of automation equipment (10) written in one or several languages conform with standard IEC1131-3, characterised by the fact that this programming station can be used to:

- display, insert, delete and modify at least one WEB function block (21,22) integrated into an application program (20),

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- set parameters for configuration data (219, 229) for at least one such WEB function block (21, 22) in text form.

17. (Withdrawn) Programming station according to claim 16, characterised by the fact that it uses preconfigured WEB function block libraries that can be memorized and manipulated starting from the programming station and include sets of WEB function blocks specialized in a type of content and/or protocol implemented using HTTP.